

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re patent application of)
KUAMR et al.) Group Art Unit: 1625
Serial No.: 10/591,657) Examiner: P. L. Morris
Filed: September 5, 2006) Atty. Dkt. No.: 124907-00106
For: INDUSTRIAL PROCESS FOR)
PREPARATION OF)
CLOPIDOGREL HYDROGEN)
SULPHATE)

RESPONSE TO LACK OF UNITY REQUIREMENT

Commissioner of Patents
P.O. Box 1540
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This response is filed in reply to the Office Action mailed April 11, 2008. Please enter the following election:

In the Office Action, the Examiner alleges that the claims of the above-identified patent application lack unity of invention, and requires Applicants to elect an invention from Groups I to XII as set forth on page 2 of the Office Action.

Applicants elect Group V, claims 56-67, drawn to a process for making Form I crystals of (+)-(S)-clopidogrel hydrogen sulphate, with traverse. Applicants note at least Groups V and VI contain a special technical feature. The special technical feature of both groups is a process for making Form I crystals of (+)-(S)-clopidogrel hydrogen sulphate comprising the steps recited in those claims. The claims of both groups recite the i) dissolving; ii) cooling; iii) adding/mixing with concentrated sulphuric acid; iv) maintaining; and v) recovering steps. Claim 68 is

essentially a narrowing of claim 56. As such, Applicants respectfully submit that at least Groups V and VI have unity of invention.

In the event there are any questions relating to this Response or to the application in general, it would be appreciated if the Examiner would telephone the undersigned attorney concerning such questions so that the prosecution of this application may be expedited.

Please charge any shortage or credit any overpayment of fees to BLANK ROME LLP, Deposit Account No. 23-2185 (124907-00106). In the event that a petition for an extension of time is required to be submitted herewith and in the event that a separate petition does not accompany this response, Applicants hereby petition under 37 CFR 1.136(a) for an extension of time for as many months as are required to render this submission timely. Any fee due is authorized above.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 5/8/08

By:



Minh-Quan K. Pham, Ph.D.
Reg. No. 50,594

BLANK ROME LLP
Watergate
600 New Hampshire Avenue, NW
Washington, D.C. 20037
Telephone: (202) 772-5800
Fax: (202) 572-1400